Message Text

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22-12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 PPT-01 SCA-01 L-03 /029 W

----- 043467

R 031515Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9560 INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE AMEMBASSY BONN USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CZ

SUBJECT: VISAS FOR JOURNALISTS

REF: PRAGUE 3093

- 1. THE EMBASSY AND THE MFA ARE STILL AT A STANDOFF
 ON VISAS FOR JOURNALISTS. ALTHOUGH THE GENERAL
 QUESTION HAS BEEN DISCUSSED SEVERAL TIMES, MFA SPOKESMEN HAVE NOT REALLY REPLIED TO OUR LAST PROPOSITION
 AS PRESENTED BY FRISBIE TO NOVOTNY. AT PRESENT WE ARE
 SITTING ON CETEKAM REPRESENTATIVE TILL'S VISA, AND
 FREUND OF VOA AND SEEGER OF LATIMES HAVE BEEN DENIED VISAS.
- 2. IN CONSIDERING NEXT STEP, COULD WE ASK ASSISTANCE FROM BONN AND BELGRADE? WE WOULD REQUEST BONN TO ASK SEEGER IF HE IS INTERESTED IN REAPPLYING ANY TIME SOON, AND BELGRADE TO ASK DUSKO DODER OF WASHPOST WHY HE CHANGED PLANS TO VISIT PRAGUE IN DECEMBER: WAS DODER DENIED VISA TOO? IF BELGRADE IS IN TOUCH WITH MALCOLM BROWNE OF NYTIMES, YOU MIGHT ASK IF HE IS CONTEMPLATING TRIP TO CSSR ALSO.
- 3. EMBOFF HAD LUNCHEON CONVERSATION JAN 26 WITH MATEJKA OF SIXTH DEPT MFA, USUALLY ACCURATE SOURCE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO SAID FREUND IN HIS OPINION WOULD GET VISA

IF HE MERELY LISTED USIA INSTEAD OF VOA ON HIS APPLICATION.

4. DEPENDING ON FREUND'S TRAVEL PLANS, WE WONDER IF IT IS NOT TIME FOR HIM TO APPLY AGAIN. IF FREUND IS AVAILABLE TO TRAVEL, AND DEPARTMENT CONCURS, WE WOULD RECOMMEND ANOTHER EFFORT, USING FORMULA PROPOSED BY FRISBIE TO NOVOTNY; I.E., SHOWING USIA (VOA) ON APPLICATION.
PERRY

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